

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Jon Sonju, on February 12, 2007 at 3:00 P.M., in Room 455 Capitol.

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Jon Sonju, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Kevin T. Furey, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Bill Nooney, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Elsie Arntzen (R)  
Rep. Edward Hilbert (R)  
Rep. Deborah Kottel (D)  
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)  
Rep. Bruce Malcolm (R)  
Rep. Bill Wilson (D)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Katie Butcher, Committee Secretary  
Leanne Heisel, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 517, HB 531, HB 546, HB 385  
Executive Action: None

**HEARING ON HB 546**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:09 Rep. Mike Phillips (D), HD 66, opened the hearing on HB 546, Revise local authority to alter speed limits.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:01:40 Rep. Phillips

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**HEARING ON HB 531**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:05 Rep. Carol Lambert (R), HD 39, opened the hearing on HB 531, Designate warrior trail.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:08:19 Laura Ulrich

00:18:49 Don McDowell, Powder County Commissioner

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:19:43 Rep. Kottel

00:20:11 Rep. Lambert

00:20:41 Leanne Heisel

00:21:12 Rep. Kottel

00:21:52 Rep. Arntzen

00:22:07 Rep. Lambert

00:23:20 Rep. Nooney

00:23:37 Rep. Lambert

00:24:14 Rep. Malcolm

00:24:55 Ms. Ulrich

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:27:37 Rep. Lambert

**HEARING ON HB 517**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:30:11 Rep. Gary Branae (D), HD 54, opened the hearing on HB 517, Revise scenic byways laws.

[EXHIBIT\(trh31a01\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:36:13 Homer Staves  
00:43:31 Dyani Bingham, Montana Tribal Tourism Alliance  
00:45:27 Howard Boggess, Frontier Heritage Alliance  
00:47:41 Kathleen Burrage, Crow Agency  
00:48:16 Mike Penfold, Our Montana

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:49:46 Barry (Spook) Stang, Montana Motor Carriers Association (MMCA)  
00:52:53 Donn Allen, Western Environmental Trade Association  
00:55:30 Dave Galt, Montana Petroleum Association

**Informational Testimony:**

00:57:35 Jim Lynch, Department of Transportation (DOT)  
00:57:52 Betsy Baumgart, Montana Travel Program

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:58:15 Rep. Nooney  
00:58:48 Rep. Branae  
01:00:30 Rep. Hilbert  
01:00:46 Rep. Branae  
01:00:56 Mr. Staves  
01:03:01 Rep. Kottel  
01:03:26 Director Lynch, DOT  
01:05:51 Rep. Nooney  
01:06:29 Mr. Staves  
01:08:16 Rep. Nooney  
01:08:28 Mr. Stang, MMCA  
01:10:30 Rep. Malcolm  
01:11:33 Rep. Sonju  
01:11:40 Director Lynch, DOT

01:13:47 Rep. MacLaren  
01:14:09 Director Lynch, DOT  
01:15:27 Rep. MacLaren  
01:15:48 Rep. Branae  
01:16:08 Rep. Arntzen  
01:16:59 Director Lynch, DOT  
01:17:46 Rep. Sonju  
01:18:40 Mr. Staves  
01:21:31 Rep. Hilbert  
01:22:12 Mr. Staves  
01:24:36 Rep. Nooney  
01:25:05 Rep. Sonju  
01:25:32 Director Lynch, DOT

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:26:28 Rep. Branae  
  
01:28:00 Break  
01:33:15 Reconvene

**HEARING ON HB 385**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:33:40 Rep. Ron Erickson (D), HD 93, opened the hearing on HB 385, Authorize funding of transportation systems with revenue bonds.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:40:41 Brent Campbell,  
01:44:27 Alec Hansen,

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:49:14 Rep. MacLaren  
01:49:28 Mr. Campbell  
01:50:15 Rep. Arntzen  
01:50:34 Mr. Campbell  
01:52:39 Rep. Nooney  
01:53:26 Director Lynch, DOT  
01:54:38 Rep. Arntzen  
01:55:09 Mr. Campbell

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:56:18 Rep. Erickson

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**ADJOURNMENT**

01:58:48 Adjournment

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REP. JON SONJU, Chairman

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KATIE BUTCHER, Secretary

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